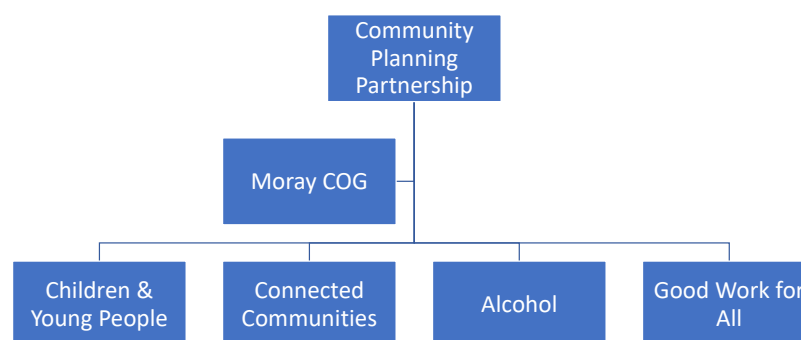


1. Governance, accountability and oversight:

Proposed Structure:



Moray COG

The Moray Chief Officers Group have agreed to extend their remit to include Public Protection as defined by the Good Governance Institute work in the North East (see appendix 1).

It is therefore recommended that the Moray Chief Officers Group should scrutinise arrangements for child protection, adult support and protection, MAPPA (multi-agency public protection arrangements) and Violence Against Women Partnership on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership and the Moray IJB.

Children & Young People

The Executive Leadership Group for Children and Young People have three strategic priorities – Ambitious and Confident, Healthier, Safe. It is proposed that the Executive Leadership Group will report to MCOG for the purposes of their strategic priority Safe. MCOG would also expect to be included as a stakeholder in the development, delivery and monitoring of the Integrated Children's Services Plan which covers all three priorities. However, the ELG will report directly to the Community Planning Board for the delivery of actions regarding goals in Ambitious and Confident and Healthier. MCOG expect that the Community Planning Partnership will need to clarify the actions which sit under their four strategic priorities and map the connects. For example the Economic Development strand includes actions to address ambitious and Connected Communities could meaningfully fulfil the responsibilities as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Recommendation 2: ELG report to MCOG for the purposes of keeping children safe. The rest of the agenda is scrutinised by the Community Planning Board.

Connected Communities:

MCOG anticipate that Connected Communities could address certain requirements as set out in the Children and Young Persons Act. As a result, MCOG would expect to be treated as a stakeholder in their strategic planning.

Alcohol:

The connections between alcohol and the public protection agenda are well known. The Care Inspectorate has recommended greater clarity on the connects between the Alcohol and Drug Partnership and MCOG. Currently the Alcohol and Drug Partnership has dual reporting to the IJB (for service delivery targets) and the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) (for the wider prevention agenda). It is recommended that the Chief Officers Group is included as a stakeholder in the development of the Alcohol and Drug Partnership strategic plan. Inclusion in the stakeholder arrangements would facilitate the ADP to be more responsive to and influence local public protection priorities.

The COG recognise if we are to support collaborative working we need to adopt collaborative leadership – everyone taking responsibility for the success of the system as a whole not just their own organisation. This new way of sharing ‘power’ will deliver the system improvements we seek.

Recommendation 2: On behalf of the Community Planning Board MCOG will scrutinise the public protection arrangements in Moray. It would however expect to be treated as a key stakeholder in the strategic planning of the strategic priorities for the CPP to be assured of necessary connects.

Recommendation 3: To ensure that there is a shared understanding of the collective agenda MCOG recommend that a review of the actions to deliver the strategic priorities of the Moray Community Planning Board is undertaken.

2. Strategic Planning for Public Protection:

Moray Child Protection Committee (MCPC) and Moray Adult Protection Committee (MAPC) lead strategic planning for child protection and for adult support and protection respectively.

Up until recently the work of the respective committees has been undertaken in isolation. The appointment of an independent chair for both the MCPC and MAPC in addition to common membership, will provide the opportunity to strengthen joint working between these committees/practitioners particularly around awareness raising and learning and development. However, we need

to ensure that the governance structure that surrounds these committees supports system wide learning and makes most effective use of quality assurance and performance support.

When a child or an adult protection investigation is undertaken, staff need to actively consider the needs of adults/children involved in the household in order to determine whether they may require support and/or protection. If certain criteria are met the respective committees are responsible for commissioning a Case Review. Knowledge/skills/learning in the system should be shared to support further improvement of investigations across public protection, in particular Significant Case Reviews.

As those working in children's services need to be aware of their responsibilities, understand the legal criteria of the three point test and what to do if they have a concern regarding a family member and vice versa for those working in adult services a co-ordinated learning and development plan will ensure that all staff are supported in an effective and efficient way to meet those needs.

Recommendation 4: The Independent Chair in collaboration with the Chief Social Work Officer is asked to give consideration to areas for closer working to improve the system response to public protection for example: awareness raising, engagement, learning and development.

3. *Quality Improvement:*

Moray Child Protection Committee as part of the Moray Integrated Children's Services has an evaluation and improvement strategy with infrastructure in place to support further improvement and development. The Moray Adult Protection Committee Biennial report highlighted the need to put an improvement plan in place to address areas identified for improvement following learning from other Adult Protection Committees. There is potential for the Adult Protection Committee to learn from and integrate with the Child Protection Committee improvement planning and delivery.

Whilst each committee must focus on improvement activity for their area of responsibility, the findings from evaluation activities should be shared across both committees in order to maximise learning and identify shared priorities for improvement or opportunities for joint working. Delivery of the individual and collective improvement actions should be routinely be reported to the Moray Chief Officers Group.

Recommendation 5: The Independent Chair in collaboration with the Chief Social Work Officer is asked to give consideration to streamlining improvement plans in our system for example one improvement plan with three component parts: Children, Adult and Joint actions.

Summary:

In summary the Moray Chief Officers Group recognise the need to further strengthen arrangements to protect children as agreed through the recent Inspection process undertaken by the Care Inspectorate. They have also identified improvements against the inspection framework to support and protect adults at risk. Moray COG have acknowledged the potential to transfer learning from the extensive improvement activity in children's services. The areas for potential synergy have been identified as strategic planning, learning and development and quality improvement.

The Moray Chief Officers will maintain oversight of the public protection agenda ensuring that individual committees fulfil their duties whilst collaborating where it is most appropriate to do so.

In taking this system oversight on behalf of each individual agency and partnerships (Community Planning and Integration Joint Boards) the Chief Officers will ensure appropriate engagement by these agencies/partnerships in the governance arrangements.

In light of the discussion and conclusions of the Moray COG the Terms of Reference for each committee will be amended to reflect the agreement.